

Claims:

- 1-4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4- claim 8, wherein the rules are definable by a user of the apparatus.
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 claim 8, wherein the rules comprise default rules.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 7, An apparatus comprising
a storage medium;
a carousel stored in the storage medium; said carousel including plural application
handles; and
a processor coupled to the storage medium, said processor configured to monitor the
apparatus for detecting inputs from a command entry device, to determine whether a timeout
period of activity from the inputs has been exceeded, to start a screen saver program when said
timeout period of activity has been exceeded, and to execute an application via one of said
handles, the application being an independent program from said screen saver program and
operable in a full application mode and a screen saver mode, the application being fully functional
in said full application mode and less than fully functional in said screen saver mode, the
application creating an image for presentation on a display screen in said screen saver mode,
wherein the carousel comprises a database stored in the storage medium containing the
application handle and rules for selecting the application handle;
wherein the database further contains application execution parameters associated with
the handle, wherein the application is executed in the screen saver mode according to the
parameters associated with the handle selected for executing the application;

wherein the application additionally has another handle comprising different execution parameters.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 8, wherein the apparatus is configured to communicate with a network and displays current information generated by the application operating in the screen saver mode based on data received from the network.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein images generated by the application for presentation on the display screen in the screen saver mode are continually updated in response to data received from the network.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 8, wherein the processor further is configured to execute at least one additional application in a corresponding screen saver mode, the at least one additional application being a program that is fully functional in a corresponding full application mode and that is less than fully functional in a corresponding screen saver mode, the at least one additional application creating images for presentation on the display screen in the corresponding screen saver mode.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the order comprises rules for scheduling the execution of applications in their respective screen saver modes.

14-16 (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication device of claim 46 20, wherein the rules are definable by a user of the communication device.

18. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication device of claim 46 20 wherein the rules comprise default rules.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication device of claim 19, A wireless communication device, comprising:

a receiver;

a memory storing data;

a display screen;

at least one application stored in the memory having at least one handle executing the at least one application in a screen saver mode when the at least one handle is selected, the at least one handle being contained in a carousel, the at least one application creating images for presentation on the display screen in the screen saver mode, the at least one application being fully functional in a full application mode and less than fully functional in a screen saver mode; and

a screen saver program stored in the memory that, during operation of the screen saver program, selects the at least one application handle, the screen saver program being an independent program from the at least one application,

wherein the carousel comprises a database stored in the memory containing the at least one application handle and rules for selecting the at least one application handle;

wherein the database further contains application execution parameters associated with the at least one handle, wherein the at least one application is executed in a screen saver mode according to the parameters associated with the at least one handle selected for executing the at least one application, wherein the at least one application additionally has another handle associated with the at least one application, the another handle comprising different execution parameters.

21. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication device of claim 14 20, wherein the at least one application comprises a network application creating images responsive to data received during operation in the screen saver mode.

22. (Original) The wireless communication device of claim 21, wherein one of the parameters associated with the network application is a uniform resource locator (URL).

23. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication device of claim 14 20, wherein the at least one application is written in a JAVA programming language.

24. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

in a device comprising a display screen, a storage medium, a screen saver computer program stored in the storage medium, a screen saver carousel stored in the storage medium, and an application stored in the storage medium, the application being a program that is independent from the screen saver program, said carousel including plural application handles, starting the screen saver program in response to exceeding a timeout period of inactivity; and

selecting an application handle via the screen saver program to execute the application associated with the selected handle in a screen saver mode, the application being fully functional in a full application mode and less than fully functional in said screen saver mode,

wherein the carousel comprises a database stored in the storage medium containing the application handle and rules for selecting the application handle,

wherein the database further contains application execution parameters associated with the handle, wherein the application is executed in the screen saver mode according to the parameters associated with the handle selected for executing the application,

wherein the application additionally has another handle comprising different execution parameters.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

installing the application on the device; and

selecting an option for the application to operate in the screen saver mode.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the application is pre-installed on the device, further comprising:

executing the application in a full application mode on the device; and

selecting an option for installing a screen saver mode for the application to operate in the screen saver mode.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising:
monitoring the device for a timeout signal that the application has exceeded a time period allotted for operation in the screen saver mode; and
in response to detecting the timeout signal, if another application has been configured to operate in a screen saver mode, executing another application in a screen saver mode associated with the another application.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising the steps of:
monitoring the device for an input signal from a command entry device; and
if a signal is received from the command entry device after the application has been executed, determining whether the executed application operating in the screen saver mode is an interactive application; and
if the executed application is an interactive program, terminating the screen saver program, and
executing the interactive program in a full application mode.

29. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
in a device comprising a display screen, a storage medium, a screen saver computer program stored in the storage medium, a screen saver carousel stored in the storage medium, and an application stored in the storage medium, the application being a program that is independent from the screen saver program, said carousel including plural application handles, starting the screen saver program in response to exceeding a timeout period of inactivity; and
selecting an application handle via the screen saver program to execute the application associated with the selected handle in a screen saver mode, the application being fully functional in a full application mode and less than fully functional in said screen saver mode,
wherein the carousel comprises a database stored in the storage medium containing the application handle and rules for selecting the application handle,
wherein the carousel comprises a database stored in the storage medium containing the application handle and rules for selecting the application handle,

wherein the database further contains application execution parameters associated with the handle, wherein the application is executed in the screen saver mode according to the parameters associated with the handle selected for executing the application,

wherein the application additionally has another handle comprising different execution parameters.

30. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 29, wherein the activity being monitored is the detection of input signals from a command entry device in communication with the device, the steps further comprising:

if a signal is not received from the command entry device, if a timeout period for operation of the respective application is exceeded, and if the carousel contains more than one handle,

selecting a different handle to execute another respective application associated with the different handle.

31-32. (Canceled)

33. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 29, wherein the activity being monitored is the reception of input signals from a command entry device in communication with the device, the steps further comprising:

if a signal is received from the command entry device after the respective application is executed, determining whether the respective application currently operating in the screen saver mode is an interactive application; and

if the respective application is an interactive program,

terminating the screen saver program, and

executing the respective interactive program in a full application mode.

34. (Currently Amended): A device comprising:

a display screen;

a memory;

a command entry device;

a computer application stored in the memory, the application having at least one handle executing the application in a screen saver mode when the at least one handle is selected, the application being a program that is fully functional in a full application mode and is less than fully functional in a screen saver mode, the application creating images for presentation on the display screen in the screen saver mode;

a different computer application stored in the memory having at least one different handle executing the different application in a different screen saver mode when the at least one different handle is selected;

rules stored within the memory for determining the scheduling for selecting the at least one handle;

parameters stored within the memory associated with the at least one handle for controlling operational aspects of the application;

a screen saver program stored in the memory and configured to select the at least one application handle during operation of the screen saver program according to the rules, the screen saver program being a program that is independent from the computer applications; and

a processor coupled to the memory that is configured to perform:

monitoring for inputs from the command entry device;

determining whether a timeout period of inactivity from the inputs has been exceeded; in accordance with instructions from the screen saver program, selecting the at least one application handle stored in the carousel;

if a signal is not detected from the command entry device since the period of inactivity was exceeded, and if a timeout period for operation of the application is exceeded, selecting the different handle to execute the different application associated with the different handle in its respective different screen saver mode;

if a signal is detected from the command entry device since the period of inactivity was exceeded, determining whether the executed application operating in the screen saver mode is an interactive application; and

if the executed application is interactive, terminating the screen saver program, and executing the executed interactive program in a full application mode.

wherein the carousel comprises a database stored in the storage medium containing the application handle and rules for selecting the application handle,

wherein the database further contains application execution parameters associated with the handle, wherein the application is executed in the screen saver mode according to the parameters associated with the handle selected for executing the application,

wherein the application additionally has another handle comprising different execution parameters.

35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 4 8, wherein,
the processor is configured to execute the application in a full application mode in response to user selection of the application; and

the processor is configured to add an application handle to the carousel in response to user selection of a screen saver mode option presented by the application while in full application mode.

36. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication device of claim 44 20, wherein the at least one application includes one or more screen saver mode options selectable by a user when operating the at least one application in a full application mode, the screen saver mode options including a level of functionality that is less than the functionality of the full application mode.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein the method further comprises:

executing the application in a full application mode in response to user selection of the application; and

adding an application handle to the screen saver carousel in response to user selection of a screen saver mode option presented by the application while in full application mode.

38-39. (Canceled)